

NEW SYNONYMY IN EPHYDRIDAE (DIPTERA)¹Wayne N. Mathis²

ABSTRACT: The identity of *Coenia flavipes* Macquart is clarified. The species is transferred to *Ephydra* where it becomes the senior synonym of *E. helwanensis* Steyskal. Macquart's original locality data from South America are questioned and it is suggested that the syntypes were collected in the Old World.

While revising the Neotropical species of the tribe Ephydrini, I discovered the new synonymy and new combination indicated below. Because the changes do not affect my study of Neotropical Ephydrini and thus will not be included (see discussion) and because other workers have studies in progress for which the name changes would be useful, I am presenting the results now. Label data accompanying each syntype specimen are cited in full. A slash indicates a label change; clarifying or interpretive comments are inserted parenthetically.

Ephydra flavipes (Macquart), New Combination

Coenia flavipes Macquart, 1843: 412.

Ephydra helwanensis Steyskal, 1968: 110. Wirth, 1975: 32 (key, synonymy, and figures of male genitalia). New Synonymy

Through the kindness of Dr. Loic Matile, National Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, I was able to study Macquart's syntype series (2♂♂, 1♀) of *C. flavipes*. One of the males is here designated as lectotype and is labelled as follows: "2125. 33(1833). (Handwritten on a white, round label that is green colored on the underside)/**Lectotype** *Coenia flavipes* Macquart, by W.N. Mathis (red)." The male paralectotype is labelled: "1933. 33(1833). (handwritten on a white, round label that is green colored on the underside)/*Coenia flavipes* (handwritten)/**Paralectotype** *Coenia flavipes* Macquart, by W.N. Mathis (red)." The female paralectotype is labelled: "2123. 33(1833). (handwritten on a white, round label that is green colored on the underside)/**Paralectotype** *Coenia flavipes* Macquart, by W.N. Mathis (red)." The lectotype and both paralectotypes are in the National Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. All three specimens are double-mounted; the lectotype and female paralectotype are somewhat moldy; and the male paralectotype lacks its head. The abdomens of both males have been removed and dissected; the

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structures are in attached microvials. The total length of the lectotype before its abdomen was removed was 3.92 mm.

Wirth (1975:35) reported that *E. flavipes* (as *E. helwanensis*) is "...the commonest and most widespread of the brine flies occurring around the Mediterranean." The species also occurs eastward into Pakistan and the Aldabra Atoll and westward to the Canary Islands. This distribution does not coincide at all with that cited in the original description by Macquart (1843:275), who stated that the syntype specimens were collected in either Brazil or Chile (by Charles Gaudichard-Beaupré).

According to Papavero (1971), Gaudichard made three expeditions to South America, in 1817, 1831, and 1836 respectively. Because the syntype specimens were accessioned in 1833, it is likely that they were collected during the second voyage, which returned to France in May of 1833. However, unlike the first and third voyages, of which there are recorded port stops at Old World localities, the available itinerary of the second voyage (Urban, 1908) lists only South American ports.

Because the known distribution of the species is limited to the Old World, I am of the opinion that the "Du Bresil ou du Chili" locality record of Macquart is in error. Either the specimens were mislabelled or like the first and third voyages, supply stops were made at Old World ports such as the Canary Islands, where the fly is known to occur.

For further information on the identity, biology, and distribution of *E. flavipes*, refer to Wirth's recent revision of Old World *Ephydra* (1975).

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